

Education Abroad- Prague, Czech Republic

Name: Rachel Doyle
Project Category: Education Abroad
Faculty Mentor: Alexandra Suer
Major: Radiation Therapy

Description

Dates: 06/14/2019 – 07/16/2019

Dobry Den! Over the summer, I traveled to Prague, Czech Republic through AIFS where I took two different courses at Charles University: "Survival Czech" for one week and "Czech Language For Everyday Use Level 1" for the last three. In the first course, I learned the basics of "surviving" in the city such as how to use and read the public transportation system and how to introduce myself to locals. Throughout the last three weeks, I learned more of the Czech language including descriptions of who I am, food and restaurant conversation, asking for directions, and grammar. For the four weeks, I lived in Kolej Komenského, one of Charles Universities' dormitories. When I wasn't in the classroom, I explored the city with the friends I made, did numerous activities with the other students and staff, tried various new foods, traveled to other countries on the weekends, and more! This summer was the most memorable and transformational time of my life and I would like to thank AIFS, Ohio State, and STEP for granting me this once in a lifetime opportunity.



Motivation

- To become more culturally aware of the world around me
- Make new friends and connections from all over the world
- Step out of my comfort zone to learn a new difficult language while also learning to survive on my own in another country
- Become a more professional Radiation Therapist
- See the world for the first time
- Become more confident and comfortable in unfamiliar situations
- Try new foods!
- Strengthen my skills as a student at Ohio State

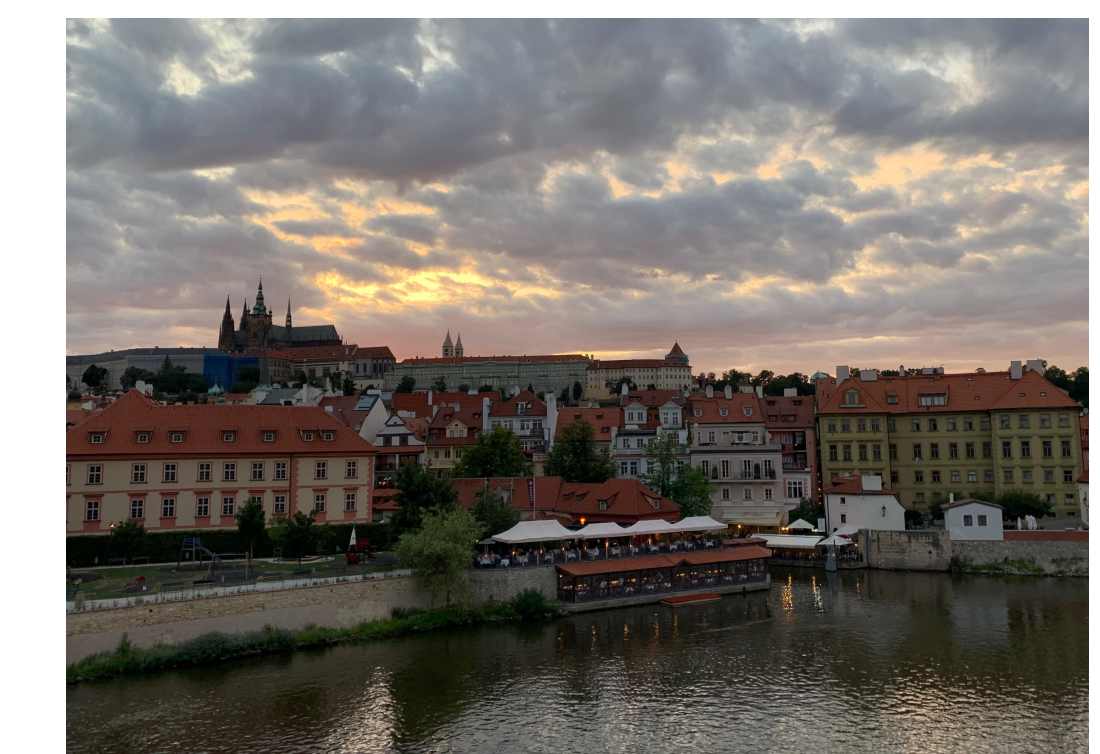
What Was Transformational About This Project?

Studying Abroad in Prague has transformed me in the most beneficial ways possible. First, I have become more culturally accepting and aware of others. Not only has this benefitted me in building relationships with peers here at Ohio State, but also during clinicals, my mind set has become more unbiased and compassionate and it is now easy for me to treat everyone as equals. I believe that this program has allowed me to become a more professional, friendly, accepting, and successful Radiation Therapist.

Additionally, I feel more comfortable with taking on difficult tasks and I have built more confidence in myself. Being that this was my first time out of the country, and I was essentially alone, I had to learn how to put my stress behind me, overcome obstacles, be happy, and live in the moment. I have noticed that in my everyday life, I am less stressed, happier, and ready to handle difficult situations, such as working with cancer patients everyday, in a healthy way.

Some Highlights

- Weekend trips to London, Berlin, Vienna, and Budapest
- Being able to see the most fascinating churches and castles, museums, art work, and nature
- Seeing many different parts of the Berlin Wall
- Discovering a new love for Goulash Soup, Strawberry Dumplings and Trdelník
- Climbing to the top of a look out tower on a small mountain to see a view of the whole entire city of Prague
- Seeing a Periodic Table of the Elements with samples of all the elements!



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

STEP

Second-year Transformational
Experience Program